AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for operation of a computer system for identification tagging a document created by said computer system comprising the steps of:

calculating a function of the document;

creating an identification tag by performing a cryptographic function on said function of the document and a unique processor identifier associated with said computer system, said cryptographic function producing an identification tag having the characteristics that a third party, said third party being unassociated with, and independent from, the creation of said created document by said computer system, possessing said document, said identification tag, and a plurality of unique processor associators each having a relationship to an associated one of a plurality of processor identifiers, can determine a source of said document as a function of identifying said computer system which created said document; and

attaching said identification tag to said document.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said function of the document is a hash function.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said relationship between a unique processor identifier and its associated unique processor associator is one of equality.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 wherein said cryptographic function is a Message Authentication Code.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said relationship between a unique processor identifier and its associated unique processor associator is that said unique processor identifier is a function of its associated processor associator.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein said cryptographic function is based on modular exponentiation .

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said unique processor identifier is stored in a processor of said computer system.

8. (Previously Amended) A processor comprising:

a stored unique processor identifier; and

stored tag function program code which when executed by the processor calculates an identification tag by performing a cryptographic function on a function of a document and said unique processor identifier, wherein said cryptographic function produces an identification tag having the characteristics that a third party, said third party being unassociated with, and independent from, the creation of said document, possessing said identification tag, said document, and a plurality of unique processor associators each having a relationship to an associated one of a plurality of processor identifiers, can identify a source of said creation of said document as a function of identifying said processor.

9. (Original) The processor of claim 8 wherein said function of a document is a hash function.

10. (Original) The processor of claim 8 wherein said relationship between a unique processor identifier and its associated unique processor associator is one of equality.

11. (Original) The processor of claim 10 wherein said cryptographic function is a Message Authentication Code.

12. (Original) The processor of claim 8 wherein said relationship between a unique processor identifier and its associated unique processor associator is that said unique processor identifier is a function of its associated processor associator.

13. (Original) The processor of claim 12 wherein said cryptographic function is based on modular exponentiation.

14. (Currently Amended) A computer system for identification tagging a document created by said computer system comprising:

means for calculating a function of the document;

means for creating an identification tag by performing a cryptographic function on said function of the document and a unique processor identifier associated with said computer system, said cryptographic function producing an identification tag having the characteristics that a third party, said third party being unassociated with, and independent from, the creation of said created document by said computer system, possessing said document, said identification tag, and a plurality of unique processor associators each having a relationship to an associated one of a plurality of processor identifiers, can determine a source of said document as a function of identifying said computer system which created said document; and

means for attaching said identification tag to said document.

15. (Original) The computer system of claim 14 wherein said function of the document is a hash function.

16. (Original) The computer system of claim 14 wherein said relationship between a unique processor identifier and its associated unique processor associator is one of equality.

17. (Original) The computer system of claim 16 wherein said cryptographic function is Message Authentication Code.

18. (Original) The computer system of claim 14 wherein said relationship between a unique processor identifier and its associated unique processor associator is that said unique processor identifier is a function of its associated processor associator.

19. (Original) The computer system of claim 18 wherein said cryptographic function is based on modular exponentiation.

20. (Original) The computer system of claim 14 wherein said unique processor identifier is stored in a processor of said computer system.